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ABSTRACT

Dealing specifically with disadvantaged learners unique to the upper n dwest, this brief final report describes the development of a series of 15 video tapes on the disadvantaged learner which emphasize the influence of subculture on the student's learning problems. The videotapes are described as consisting almost entirely of in-depth interviews (with supplementary slides) with those persons, mostly Minnesotans, who are intimately involved in working with the disadvantage d learner. The completed videotapes are listed by title and information is provided about the person interviewed for each tape. They are available on a rental basis from the videotape library at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and from the videotape room at the College of St. Scholastica. (SH)

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FINAL REPORT

MINNESOTA STATE INTER-INSTITUTIONAL TELEVISION SUPPORT GRANT

DISADVANTAGED LEARNER VIDEO PROJECT

SUBMITTED TO: MINNESOTA HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION
DR. ORIA BRINKMEIER, PROJECT COORDINATOR

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, DULUTH

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA

NOVEMBER 11, 1971

EM009569

I am pleased to submit this final report to the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission on the production of television materials relative to the disadvantaged learner.

As described in our original proposal to HECC, it was the intention of the project to produce fifteen video tapes on the disadvantaged learner with special emphasis on the sub-culture of the disadvantaged and the influence of the sub-culture on the student's learning problems.

For purposes of this project a disadvantaged learner was defined as one with the following problems:

1. Little experience with organized group behavior or verbally stimulating tasks.

2. Limited enriching stimuli at home with only rare opportunities to range beyond the immediate neighborhood.

3. Little encouragement from home to succeed in school.

4. Poor performance on tests of scholastic aptitude which require mastery of a conceptual style of communication.

THE PURPOSE

The project was designed to provide the University of Minnesota, Duluth, the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, and other area educational institutions with visual materials designed to supplement courses being offered at these institutions relating to the disadvantaged youngster.

We believe the materials produced in the tapes described below, fill a void in relevant audio-visual materials regarding the disadvantaged youngster. We know that there are many excellent professionally produced audio-visual resources on the disadvantaged youngster, but we also know that virtually none are relevant to the student desiring to teach in the upper midwest (where most of our students obtain employment). Too many of the resources pertain only to hardcore problems in this country's worst ghetto areas, but none deal with disadvantaged youngsters unique to the upper midwest such as the sugar beet migrant and the American Indian.

The fifteen tapes described below consist almost entirely of in-depth interviews with those persons, mostly Minnesotans, who are intimately involved in working with the disadvantaged learner. To add variety to each tape we extensively used slides which pictorially described the subject about which the interviewed person was speaking.

THE PROJECT

Interviews were conducted both in the well equipped studios at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and in various locations throughout the state. For example, the production team of Project Director, Ralph Doty, and Producer, Jim Stoltenberg, traveled to Clara City, Minnesota, to visit with Father Eugene Heckert about migrant children.

Working long hours the production team completed most of the work on the 15 programs in less than five weeks. A few finishing touches were needed during the intervening school year. Cooperation from the Office of Educational Media at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, was superb.

Preceding the actual interview each tape began with a brief but concise narrative opening written and spoken by Mr. Craig Welch, a one time radio announcer in Duluth and presently with the public relations department of the Minnesota Power and Light Company.

The only problem in producing the entire project was that several planned programs spelled out in the original proposal were impossible to produce because schools were not in session during the summer period when the project began. For example, plans to visit an Indian school on a reservation fell through because the school was not in session.

Two copies of each tape have been made. One copy is in the video tape library at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and another is kept in the video tape room at the College of St. Scholastica. In both institutions notices have been sent out to college faculty to describe the tapes. The number of usages is increasing as word spreads as to their usefulness.

The completed programs are as follows:

1. The Role of the State in Minority Education. An interview with Howard Casmey, Minnesota Commissioner of Education.

2. The Role of the State in Minority Education. An interview with Archie Holmes, Equal Educational Opportunities Section, Minnesota Department of Education.

3. The Role of the State in American Indian Education. An interview with Will Antell, Minnesota Director of Indian Education.

4. Education in an All Indian School. An interview with Jerry Buckanaga, Principal, Pine Point Elementary School, Park Rapids Public Schools.

5. Working with American Indian Employees. An interview with Paul Schultz, Director of Minority Programs, Boise-Cascade Company, International Falls, Minnesota.

6. The Minnesota Indian. An interview with Dr. Dean Crawford, Professor, University of Minnesota, Duluth.

7. Educational Programs for Migrant Children (Part 1). An interview with Father Eugene Heckert, Director of Migrant Programs, Clara City, Minnesota.

8. Educational Programs for Migrant Children (Part 2). An interview with Father Eugene Heckert, Director of Migrant Programs, Clara City, Minnesota.

9. How the Local Community Works to Break the Poverty Cycle. An interview with Robert Hoch and John Radosevich, Duluth Community Action Program.

10. The Head Start-Follow Through Programs. An interview with Terry Churchill, Director of Early Childhood Education, Duluth Public Schools.

11. The Community School and the Disadvantaged. An interview with Robert Zbasnik, Community School Director, Duluth Public Schools.

12. Turn on to Living (TOTL Program). An interview with the staff and students of the TOTL Program, College of St. Scholastica, Duluth.

13. The Role of the Principal in the Inner City School. An interview with John Downs, Duluth Public Schools.

14. Education in an Indian School. An interview with Melvin Buzzard, Resources Director, Pine Point Elementary School, Park Rapids Public School.

15. The Role of the Elementary School Counselor in the Inner City School. An interview with Ed McGrew, Duluth Public Schools.

SUMMARY

In conclusion it is my belief that the money allocated for the tapes will eventually be more than justified. The tapes fill a definite need for relevant audio-visual materials on the disadvantaged learner, and the variety of courses in which they might be used means they will probably receive heavy use.

SIGNED:

Ralph K. Daly

PROJECT DIRECTOR